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## GEOGRAPHICAL RECORD

### THE AMERICAN GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

**Meetings of the Society.** A meeting of the Society was held at the Engineering Societies' hall, No. 29 West 39th Street, on Tuesday evening, Feb. 23, at 8.30 o'clock. Vice-President Greenough in the Chair.

The following persons recommended by the Council were elected Fellows:

L. Philip Denoyer, Chicago,  
Andrew Arthur Benton, New York City,  
Lieut. John C. Soley, New Orleans, La.,  
Ralph Emerson Twitchell, Santa Fé, N. M.,  
Edward H. Swan, New York City.

Mr. B. R. Baumgardt, member of the Southern California Academy of Sciences, addressed the Society on "Berlin and Modern Germany." The lecture was illustrated by lantern views.

On Tuesday evening, March 9, an extra inter-monthly meeting was held at the Engineering Societies' hall at which Mr. Glen Arnold Grove addressed the Society on "Holland" with lantern illustrations.

**Presentation of the Cullum Geographical Medal to Dr. J. Scott Keltie.** At the meeting of the Royal Geographical Society on Feb. 22, 1915, the Cullum Geographical Medal was presented to J. Scott Keltie, I.L.D., Secretary of the Royal Geographical Society, London, by United States Ambassador Page, in behalf of the American Geographical Society of New York.

In opening the meeting, Mr. Douglas W. Freshfield, President of the Royal Geographical Society, said:

"Before we come to the ordinary business of the evening, we have a very pleasing ceremony to witness. The American Geographical Society of New York have been good enough to recognize the great services that have been rendered to geography by our Secretary, Dr. Keltie, during his long term of office here, by according him the Cullum Geographical Medal, which, I believe, is presented only to most distinguished geographers. In addition to that, His Excellency, the American Ambassador, has been good enough to come here to-night at the request of the American Geographical Society of New York to present the medal to Dr. Keltie. I will ask His Excellency to do so."

The American Ambassador, addressing Dr. Keltie, said: "I have laid upon me, by the American Geographical Society of New York, the very agreeable and very honorable duty of presenting to you, sir, this their medal. It is presented to you in recognition of your long and eminent service as Secretary of this Society and I need not say that it comes with the greeting of the American Society to this Society. It is the more agreeable duty to me to deliver this medal this evening because it happens to be the evening of the anniversary of the birth of Washington, which gives to all Americans a patriotic interest in the day, as well, of course, as the beginning of another century of peace between our two peoples. I have great pleasure in presenting this medal."

Dr. Scott Keltie replied: "Your Excellency: I beg you to convey to the Council of the American Geographical Society my deep appreciation of the honor they have done me in awarding me the Cullum Gold Medal, an honor enhanced, I venture to think, by its being presented through the Ambassador of a great nation, the spirit of whose culture, notwithstanding the infusion of many other racial types, is essentially Anglo-Saxon. I am sensible of the

value of the honor. It is, I believe, not awarded every year, and among the seven previous recipients are such distinguished names as those of Scott, Nansen, Peary, Amundsen, and Shackleton. I ought to feel proud at being allotted a place in such distinguished company. Moreover, I cannot but be gratified that so competent a body as the Council of the leading geographical society of the New World should adopt this method of expressing their conviction that during the last thirty years my efforts to promote the objects of this great Society, and to improve the position of geography in England, have achieved a certain measure of success."

**The Society's Exhibitions.** The attendance in February was 3,696 persons, an average of 132 a day. The collection of maps illustrating the war receives undiminished attention. The large collection of photographs showing many aspects of the scenery and development of Alaska will remain on exhibition till early in April.

**The Society's Educational Collection.** This collection of selected European school wall maps, atlases, and text books which for several years past has been shown in many of the Universities, and normal schools, from the Atlantic to the Pacific has recently been exhibited to many teachers in the middle west as follows: Feb. 2-12, Moorhead Normal School and Minnesota Teachers' Association of northwestern district; Feb. 12-26, Mankato Normal School and Southern Minnesota Teachers' Association; Feb. 26-March 13, Dept. of Geography, University of Minnesota. Special arrangements were made to bring in the teachers of Minneapolis and St. Paul. Care Prof. C. J. Posey; March 13-27, St. Cloud Normal School and Central Minnesota Educational Association. Care Miss Clara L. Stiles. Later dates are: March 27-Apr. 21, St. Paul Normal School, care of Pres. L. L. Everly; April 16-May 7, State Normal School, Kalamazoo, Mich. Care Prof. L. H. Wood; May 7-21, State Normal College, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio. Care Prof. Geo. W. Hoke.

**Joint Meeting of the Association of American Geographers and the American Geographical Society.** This meeting will take place at the house of the American Geographical Society in this city on Friday and Saturday, April 9 and 10, 1915. It is expected that the occasion will be of much scientific and social interest. The visiting members will have quarters at the Park Avenue Hotel, where there will be an informal social gathering in Secretary Bowman's room on Thursday evening. The attendance is likely to be even larger than last year. The sessions in the Society's building will be held in the rear exhibition room on the first floor.

## NORTH AMERICA

**Advancing the Standards of Geographical Education.** The Association of American Geographers, as the *Bulletin* announced in February, at its meeting in Chicago on December 29 and 30 last appointed a committee to investigate the conditions of geographical education in our country; also to study the question how our educational standards may be advanced so as to meet the geographical needs of our people. A committee consisting of Richard E. Dodge, professor of geography in Teachers College, Columbia University; Ray H. Whitbeck, associate professor of geography and physiography in the University of Wisconsin, and Cyrus C. Adams of the American Geographical Society, Chairman, was later appointed to conduct the investigation.

The committee's report will be presented to the Association at the next annual meeting and one of the sessions will be entirely devoted to it. It is desired that the report shall embrace all phases of the subject—and among them the evolution of geographical education in Europe brought about by the impelling need for sound geography as the basis of countless activities and as essential in text-books, literature and maps.

This movement is based upon the conviction of our geographers that, on the whole, our vast school population is not as yet being prepared to possess and to enjoy all those conveniences of knowledge and those elements of culture which geography can give. The fact that as a people we have neglected the geographical phase of our education explains the great geographical deficiencies of many of our periodicals, encyclopedias, atlases and other publications. Our geographers themselves must be the primary agents in improving and perfecting present conditions. They have every encouragement to take up the work. Their efforts will evolve helpfulness in others; and they see before them the transformation in geographical education that has come to pass within the past thirty years in the United Kingdom, whose geographers and geographical societies now have, as the fruit of their labors, geography in the universities, a vast improvement in text-books and in methodology, map-making that nearly rivals the best products of the Continent, and an output of geographical literature, embracing all the content of geography, that would honor any nation.

**Association of American Geographers.** The Association, at its December meeting, accepted with regret the resignation of Prof. R. E. Dodge as editor of the *Annals* of the Association. Prof. H. H. Barrows was appointed to the editorship. William Libbey, R. DeC. Ward and A. H. Brooks were elected Councillors.

**Plans for Shore Protection.** The New Jersey Harbor Commission has made a report to the Governor of the state urging an appropriation of \$35,000 for the purposes of a complete investigation of the factors involved in seashore protection. This action was doubtless stimulated by the great damage done along the New Jersey coast during the past two years by storm waves. A report on the damage inflicted by storms in the winter of 1913-14, prepared by Professor D. W. Johnson and W. S. Smith, forms part of the last Annual Report of the State Geologist of New Jersey.

**Government Books on Geography and Exploration.** The government has recently published Price List 35, second edition, which gives the titles and many summaries of contents of all the books on geography, travel and exploration issued by the various departments and bureaus in Washington. Our government is one of the largest publishers in the world of works that should be in the libraries of all geographers. They are sold at moderate prices by the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C., who sends the price lists free to those who ask for them.

**Physiographic Excursion in the Western United States.** In connection with the geographical work of the Columbia University Summer Session, Professor D. W. Johnson will conduct a physiographic excursion in the western United States next summer. The party will visit the Devil's Tower, Yellowstone National Park, Glacier National Park, Crater Lake, the Yosemite Valley, Royal Gorge of the Arkansas, and the Colorado Springs and Pikes Peak region. It is probable that the new Lassen Peak volcano and the neighboring recent cinder cone will be visited, as well as the Lake Bonneville shorelines and recent fault scarps near Bingham and Provo. While in San Francisco the party will participate in the excursions of the Geological Society of America to the San Andreas earthquake rift near Point Reyes Station, and the uplifted marine terraces at Santa Cruz. Two field courses will be given: a general course on the elements of physical geography and an advanced course on the physiography of the western United States. The courses are open to students and teachers of geology and geography. It is expected that the party will leave New York about July and be gone two months. Full information regarding itinerary, expenses, and academic credit may be obtained by addressing Professor D. W. Johnson, Columbia University, New York City.

**The Carnegie Starts on her Fourth Cruise.** The non-magnetic yacht *Carnegie*, on March 6, started on her fourth cruise. It is to continue for two years and the vessel's chief ports of call will be Colon, Panama, Honolulu, Dutch Harbor and Port Lyttleton (New Zealand). From the latter port a

circuit of the earth will be attempted (November, 1915–March, 1916) between the parallels of about 60° and 65° S. where but few magnetic data have been obtained since the expeditions of the *Erebus*, *Terror* and *Pagoda*, 1839–1844. In addition to the magnetic observations the work in atmospheric electricity is to receive special attention. The vessel is commanded by J. P. Ault, the other members of the scientific party being Dr. H. M. W. Edmonds (second in command) and Observers Johnston, Luke and Sawyer; also Dr. S. J. Mauchly as far as Panama.

**Opening New Farm Lands in British Columbia.** A large amount of land has been opened to settlement along the line of the Grand Trunk Pacific R.R. in British Columbia. In 1914, 1,963 land preemptions were taken up by settlers. The Canadian government announces that there are now about 1,500,000 acres of surveyed lands along this recently completed transcontinental route. Settlers are taking up tracts of 160 acres each on payment of a fee of \$2.

## ASIA

**Discharge and Sediment of the Yangtze-kiang.** In a communication to the *Zeitschrift der Deutschen Geologischen Gesellschaft* (B: Monatsberichte, Vol. 66, 1914, No. 6-7, pp. 325-328) Professor K. Keilhack of the Berlin School of Mines gives interesting data, based on personal observations made in September, 1913, on the volume of water and the sediment carried by the Yangtze-kiang, a subject about which we have surprisingly little information, he says, when the size and importance of the river is considered.

At the time of his visit the river was in flood and had reached a stage only one meter below the highest ever recorded. At its mouth, near Wusung, its depth was 12-14 meters (39-46 ft.); at Nanking, 250 miles above, 40 meters (131 ft.); and at Hankow, 685 miles above its mouth, 100 meters (328 ft.). From these figures and those for the width and velocity communicated to him by a pilot of twenty years' experience on the river, he estimates its discharge below Hankow when in flood to be 100,000 cubic meters (3,500,000 cubic feet) per second or, allowing for a high water period of four to five months, 50,000 cubic meters (1,750,000 cubic feet) per second as the annual mean. What this enormous amount of water means may be comprehended by remembering that the water requirement of Greater Berlin, with its 3,000,000 inhabitants, is 3.5 cubic meters (124 cubic feet) per second, or, in other words, the Yangtze-kiang could furnish the city's annual consumption in thirty-six minutes.

Based on filtration experiments carried out at the mouth near Wusung and on the above figures for discharge, Professor Keilhack estimates the weight of the amount of sediment carried during high water to be 34,000 kilograms (75,000 pounds) per second, or, on an average throughout the year, 17,000 kilograms (37,500 pounds) per second. This would be equal to a total annual load of 530,000,000 kilograms (584,000,000 tons). Assuming the specific gravity to be 2.2, this would amount to 240,000,000 cubic meters (8,480,000,000 cubic feet), or enough to cover an area of about 300 square miles—slightly less than the surface of Greater New York—with one foot of soil annually.

**The Occupation of Basra.** The capture of Basra or Busra, the chief port of Bagdad, by an Indian force, was announced some time ago in the daily press, and is an event of some importance. The *Journal of the Royal Society of Arts* for January 1 gives some notes in regard to the port. It is expected that it will form the terminus of the Bagdad railway, and perhaps also the eastern objective of the proposed trans-Arabian railway from Port Said to the Persian Gulf. The town is unhealthy, but the neighboring country is fertile, producing wheat, rice, dates, barley, much fruit, notably apricots, apples, figs, olives, pomegranates, and grapes, also vegetables, while roses are cultivated for attar. The trade in petroleum, to which considerable importance is attached, dates only from the beginning of 1914. The imports are considerable, German returns giving them as close upon £2,000,000 (for Basra and Bagdad) for the year 1913, as compared with about half that sum in the previous year. (*Scott. Geogr. Mag.*, Vol. 31, 1915, No. 2, p. 97.)

## AUSTRALASIA AND OCEANIA

**The Outbreak of Mauna Loa, 1914.** Dr. T. A. Jaggar, Jr., Director of the Hawaiian Volcano Observatory, has written an account of the renewal of activity last year in this volcano.<sup>1</sup>

Dr. Jaggar wrote in the *Report* of the Observatory for 1912 that, according to precedence since 1868, renewed activity in Mauna Loa might be expected before Feb. 1, 1915, as outbreaks are to be looked for at intervals of five years. The lava fountains appeared in the summit crater on Nov. 25, 1914, about 3.45 P. M. The four seismographs in the Observatory recorded 56 earthquakes in the three weeks preceding the outbreak. They attracted no attention except instrumentally. Kilauea did not show the slightest instantaneous sympathy with the Mauna Loa revival. If the lava of Kilauea should disappear in 1915 and remain dormant during the active epoch of Mauna Loa, a sympathy of alternation between the two volcanoes may well be suspected.

The Observatory was enveloped in mist on the afternoon of Nov. 25, but at Pahala on the south flank of Mauna Loa the summit was clearly seen. A column of white vapor suddenly rose from the north side of the summit and four others rose in rapid succession next south of it. There was no noise and no earthquake. The slender vapor stems over Mauna Loa reflected bright yellow light from what must have been immense fountains of lava below and they made collectively a wide trunk for a spreading mushroom of vapor above.

"This first night was unquestionably the most brilliant and up to the present (Dec. 7) represented the maximum fountain activity."

Messrs. Leslie Forrest and L. C. Palmer spent the night of Nov. 27 on the edge of the Mokuaweoweo crater basin and watched the fountains. The activity was confined to the main central basin, where an elongate area of new lava overspread the middle part of the floor. There were eight main fountains mostly playing continuously up to heights of between 300 and 400 feet. The other fountains were only 40 to 50 feet high. Mr. Palmer made a sketch map of this crater basin showing the distribution of the fountains and the area covered by the new lava.

Cablegrams have later reported large overflows of lava from the crater basin.

**Glacial Origin of Fiords of the South Island of New Zealand.**

During a visit to New Zealand in May, 1914, my attention was called by Mr. P. G. Morgan, Director of the New Zealand Geological Survey, to the following early recognition of the glacial origin of the fiords or "sounds" of the South Island, including a brief mention of what are now called hanging valleys, as well as the adoption of the self-destructive process by which the end of the glacial period was brought about, a process which Tyndall also advocated, for a time at least:

"The sea in fact now occupies a chasm [Milford Sound] that was in past ages plowed by an immense glacier, and it is through the natural progress of events, by which the mountain mass has been reduced in altitude, that the ice stream has been replaced by the waters of the ocean. The evidence of this change may be seen at a glance. The lateral valleys join the main one at various elevations, but are all sharply cut off by the precipitous wall of the sound, the erosion of which was no doubt continued by a great central glacier long after the subordinate and tributary glaciers had ceased to exist. The precipices exhibit the marks of ice action with great distinctness, and descend quite abruptly to a depth of 800 to 1,200 feet below the water level."

This statement was published in a report on a "Geological Expedition to the West Coast of Otago, New Zealand," in the *Otago Provincial Government Gazette*, Vol. VI, No. 274, p. 460, 1863.

W. M. DAVIS.

## EUROPE

**The Earthquake in Italy.** According to the latest information, the loss of life caused by the extraordinarily destructive earthquake in Central

<sup>1</sup>The Outbreak of Mauna Loa, Hawaii, 1914. *Amer. Journ. of Sci.*, Vol. 39, 1915, Feb., pp. 167-172.

Italy on Jan. 13 was due more to the faulty construction of the houses in the region affected than to the severity of the shock. The central region of the earthquake appears to have been close to the town of Avezzano, where about 90 per cent. of the total population, 11,000, were killed. Buildings were damaged across the peninsula from Rome on the west to Chieti on the east, towns 110 miles apart. The shock was recorded at many seismograph stations in various parts of the world, including that of Washington. It has often been said that the terrible mortality that accompanies these afflictions in Italy and in Latin American countries is due very largely to poor masonry.

**The War and Geography.** Baron Hulot, Secretary General of the Paris Geographical Society, in an address to the members on November 27, said that at the outbreak of the war two-thirds of the Society's working staff, as well as the president, treasurer and nine members of its Central Commission (corresponding to the Council in our Society) took service under the flag. The Society's building was soon after placed at the service of Countess Röederer, who filled it with the wives and children of soldiers who had gone to the war, the women being those who could not accept regular employment because their babies needed them. The Society issued the July number of *La Géographie* and the closing number of the year is the August-December number, so that the volume for 1914 is just two-thirds as large as usual.

Prof. Dr. Friedrich Biddingmaier was killed in battle before Verdun on September 23, aged 39 years. His special work was in geophysics and terrestrial magnetism at the Observatory of the University of Munich. He discussed the scientific results of the German South Polar Expeditions in Vols. 5 and 6 of its *Report*. He wrote in 1912, after he had been called to Munich as Custodian of the Observatory and Privat Dozent in the University: "I hope at last to have rest and an opportunity to devote myself wholly to science and my educational work."

The staff of field surveyors and assistants in the service of Prussia is large as the state carries on cadastral surveys as well as those of much less detail. The *Zeitschrift für Vermessungswesen* (Vol. 43, No. 27) says that 666 of these men had been called to the war and that, up to the time of publication, twenty-six of them had been killed and twenty-two wounded.

Prof. F. Machatschek of the University of Budapest, whose arrest by the Russians while he was making geomorphological studies in Russian Turkestan and his detention at Tashkent were reported in the *Bulletin* (January, 1915, p. 46), was later released and has been able to return to Vienna. He says he was well treated by the Russians.

Prof. Dr. Albrecht Penck, who for months was held a prisoner of war in London, has been released and has returned to Germany. He was attending the meeting of the Association for the Advancement of Science in Australia at the outbreak of the war and was not permitted to return home. (*Deutsche Rundschau für Geogr.*, Vol. 37, 1914-15, No. 5, p. 238.)

## POLAR

### ANTARCTIC

**Latest from Sir Ernest Shackleton.** The *Daily Chronicle* of London prints letters and a diary from Sir Ernest Shackleton which give some information supplementary to that printed in the *Bulletin* (January, p. 52). Sir Ernest wrote that, after wintering at the station he expected to plant on the coasts discovered by the Filchner Expedition to the south of Weddell Sea, he hoped to start at the beginning of November next for his sledge journey over the Antarctic Continent to the Pole and thence to Ross Sound. His party carried out an interesting and useful piece of scientific work in South Georgia, where true meridian posts were erected which would enable whaling and other ships to test their compasses. The expedition received an addition to its personnel, most unusual for a Polar expedition, in the shape of a stowaway.

**Names of the South Polar Plateau.** The question has been asked what name should be given to the high plateau surrounding the South Pole. Shackleton found the south central plateau on his line of march *towards* the Pole, roughly along 170° E. Long. He named it King Edward VII Plateau. Amundsen found the south central plateau on his line of march *to* the Pole roughly along 160° W. Long. He named it King Haakon VII Plateau.

Usage as to the names proposed for this plateau is not likely to be uniform till some authority such as an International Geographic Congress passes upon the matter. The sixth edition of Andrees Grosser Handatlas, sheet 6-7, indicates, in color, King Haakon VII Plateau around the Pole and stringing widely off to the north along Amundsen's line of advance. It also shows, in color, King Edward VII Plateau from the head of Beardmore Glacier, where Shackleton first saw the plateau, to and a little beyond his most southerly point of advance.

**Justice to Lieut. Wilkes.** *Science* (March 5) prints a review of Sir Douglas Mawson's book "The Home of the Blizzard" from the pen of Major General A. W. Greely in which the writer says: "It is pleasing to find Sir Douglas Mawson in that restricted class that has a due sense of obligation to predecessors. After praising the skill and daring of Wilkes in the hazardous voyage of his squadron for forty-two days along the borders of the antarctic circle, he adds:

'It is wonderful how much was achieved. We may amply testify that Wilkes did more than open the field for future expeditions.'

"Americans thus owe a debt to Mawson, whose faith, courage, and ability have given definite form to the 1,500 miles of the continent of Antarctica, which was reported by Wilkes only to be contemned and suppressed in narratives and on charts, and to be absolutely neglected by explorers for seventy years."

#### ARCTIC

**Captain Sverdrup on the Asian Arctic Coast.** It was noted in the *Bulletin* (January, p. 54) that the vessels *Hertha* and *Eclipse* had been sent out to succor the Russian expeditions under Lieut. Brussiloff and survivors of the ill-fated party in Franz Josef Land commanded by Captain Sedoff. The *Hertha* found records in Franz Josef Land concerning the fate of the Sedoff Expedition and then returned home. Captain Sverdrup was in command of the *Eclipse* with especial instructions to look for the Brussiloff party which left St. Petersburg in July, 1912, for the Arctic. *Nature* publishes (No. 2,361, p. 596) the report that, in September, Sverdrup himself was in difficulties, the ship being ashore near the mouth of the Obi. He was fortunately encountered by another vessel and the *Eclipse* was pulled off and proceeded. It is now announced from Russia that the *Eclipse* is in winter quarters in lat. 74°45' N., long. 92° E., a position that is well inland in the Taimyr Peninsula, so that it may perhaps be inferred that she has found a berth in a bay on that coast. It does not appear that her search has yet been successful.

**Mr. Leffingwell's Work in Alaska.** For some years Mr. Ernest de K. Leffingwell has been engaged in scientific work along the north coast of Alaska. When he and Mikkelsen went to that coast in 1906 he found that the charts of the coast were practically the same as those made by British explorers three-quarters of a century earlier. He found also that the interior was almost unknown. Since then he has mapped about 150 miles of the coast, including many islands, on a large scale. He has made about 1,000 soundings in the shoaler waters along the coast. Inland he has mapped the broader geographical and geological features in an area about eighty miles square. As a support for the maps he triangulated 100 miles of the coast with a creditable degree of accuracy and the remainder somewhat more roughly. In order to locate and orient the map he took astronomical observations for latitude, longitude and azimuth. He is at present at the U. S. Geological Survey in Washington and hopes to complete his work for publication before summer. It is not likely that he will return to Alaska.



## GENERAL

**Summaries of Geographical Articles in English, German or French.** The growing tendency of geographical and geological bureaus, whose reports are printed in languages not widely known, to issue summaries or full details of these reports in English, German or French, is heartily to be commended. Probably no colonial power has been more active in the scientific study of its oversea possessions than the Dutch since they began the work of developing the Dutch East Indies. Many hundreds (a French writer recently said over 2,000) resulting papers, monographs and books are on library shelves all over the world, but this great wealth of material is available only for those specialists and students who are able to read Dutch. It is pleasant to turn to the official publications of some other countries, Denmark, for example, whose scientific literature is likely to be paraphrased in one of the three most generally known languages so that they may be useful to students in all countries. Most of the contents of *Meddelelser om Grønland*, which contains the largest series of monographs and papers published on Greenland, is in this way made available to everyone interested. At the present time some American students may feel indebted to *Danmarks geologiske Undersøgelse* (II Raekke Nr. 25) for the English summary of the "Boring operations through the quaternary deposits at Skærumhede," etc. These borings reveal two glacial horizons separated by thick layers deposited under temperate climate conditions. Evidence is presented to show that these thick layers have not been moved from their original situation. "We may take it for granted that they lie where originally deposited and we thus have indisputable evidence of a well-marked inter-glacial period both as regards time and temperature."

The English summary is 26 pages in length, or one-sixth as long as the paper. Many of the publications of the Norwegian Geological Survey are also summarized in English.

## PERSONAL

In 1914 the Department of Geography of the University of Chicago granted the degree of Ph.D. to Wellington D. Jones, Instructor in Geography, University of Chicago; Almon E. Parkins, Instructor in Geography and Geology, University of Missouri; and Stephen S. Visser, formerly Assistant Professor of Geology in the University of South Dakota.

Dr. W. L. Bray, Professor of Botany at Syracuse University, lectured before the Torrey Botanical Club at the American Museum of Natural History on March 9 on "Some Aspects of the New York State Vegetation."

Dr. de Filippi returned to Italy in January after completing the work of his Karakoram expedition. He will give an account of the results at a meeting of the Royal Geographical Society this spring.

*The Monthly Weather Review* for November reprints the paper "Systematic Explorations of the Upper Air with Estimates of Cost" which Mark W. Harrington, Chief of the U. S. Weather Bureau, read before the International Conference on Aerial Navigation at Chicago in August, 1893. Dr. Abbe says the paper is of such historical value that he reprints it for the information of students of meteorology. He adds that Prof. Harrington is still living quietly near Philadelphia.

Professor Douglas W. Johnson of Columbia University, who lectured before the Society on Dec. 22 on the influence of physiographic features upon the European war, delivered lectures upon the same subject before the Geographical Society of Philadelphia on Jan. 15, and the Engineers Club of Trenton on Feb. 11. On March 2 he lectured in the Vassar Institute course at Poughkeepsie.

Prof. Dr. Hans Meyer has been named Honorary Professor of Colonial Geography at the University of Berlin.

Mr. G. T. Rude, of the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, has prepared for publication a general report descriptive of Prince William Sound, Alaska, its resources, towns, harbors, etc., illustrated by numerous photographs.

## OBITUARY

ARCHIBALD ROSS COLQUHOUN. This famous traveler is dead in England at the age of 67 years. Colonel Yule once said of him that he was "born with a genius for travel." In his first important expedition he surveyed about 1,300 miles of new country between Wu-chau and Tali-fu and secured a wealth of information concerning the political and economic conditions of the region across Farther India from sea to sea. He found that the Shan states between Burma and China had become independent and the districts bordering on Burma were discovered to be much richer than had been supposed. His book in two volumes "Across Chryse" is still one of the best books of travel on China. Later he studied a large region from lower Burma to Ssu-mao in behalf of the project of constructing a railroad there. He was special correspondent of the *London Times* in the Franco-Chinese war, Deputy Commissioner for Upper Burma for several years, was a member of the pioneer force which opened Rhodesia in South Africa to enterprise, was the first administrator of Mashona Land, subsequently traveled much in North and Central America and the Far East and wrote several books, including "China in Transformation," "The Mastery of the Pacific," and "The Africander Land." At the end of 1909 he became editor of the journal of the Royal Colonial Institute, which he developed into an important magazine for the discussion of imperial problems under the title *United Empire*.

PROFESSOR JAMES GEIKIE. Professor Geikie, Emeritus Professor of Geology and Mineralogy at the University of Edinburgh and Dean of the Faculty of Science, died in Edinburgh on March 2, at the age of 76. He was one of the founders and a past President of the Royal Scottish Geographical Society and honorary editor of the *Scottish Geographical Magazine*. He was a member of many learned societies in various countries, received many honors and was a prolific and influential writer. Among his best known works are the "Great Ice Age," 1874 (three editions); "Pre-Historic Europe," 1882; "Outlines of Geology," 1884 (four editions); "Earth Sculpture," 1898, two editions; "Structural and Field Geology," 1905 (three editions); "Mountains, their Origin, Growth and Decay," 1913; "The Antiquity of Man in Europe," 1914.